

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109922
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DLOS-09 EB-08 INT-05 AGRE-00
COME-00 L-03 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00
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-----117451 292123Z /61
R 290317Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, PBOR

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN TEXT OF US-GODR DRAFT FISHERIES
AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 30153 B. SANTO 7022

1. DEPT REP DISCUSSED DEFINITIONS OF ARTISINAL AND
RECREATIONAL FISHING (PARA 10, REF A) WITH CARIBBEAN
REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN SAN JUAN DURING
COUNCIL'S APRIL 19-21 MEETING. COUNCIL WAS TROUBLED
BY DEFINITIONS, BUT FELT PART OF PROBLEM MAY BE IN TRANS-
LATION FROM SPANISH TEXT. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO POUCH
COPY OF DOMINICAN TEXT (REF B) IN SPANISH.

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2. PUERTO RICAN GOVT DESIGNEE TO COUNCIL,SANTIAGO
CRESPO-OCASIO, AUXILIARY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE;
AND MR. HECTOR M. VEGA-MORERA, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN,PRIVATELY
EXPRESSED VIEW THAT DEPT SHOULD AGAIN CONTACT GOVERNOR
OF PUERTO RICO TO ENSURE HE FULLY UNDERSTANDS AND SUPPORTS
U.S. POSITION FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS, PRIOR TO ANOTHER
NEGOTIATING SESSION IN SANTO DOMINGO. CRESPO ALLUDED TO

COMPLICATED POLITICAL SITUATION WHICH MIGHT ARISE IN
PUERTO RICO IF THE POSSIBILITY OF HYDROCARBONS ON THE
OUTTER PORTION OF CABO ENGARO BANK BECOMES A PUBLIC ISSUE.
DEPT HAS NO SPECIFIC REASON TO BELIEVE HYDROCARBONS EXIST
IN THIS AREA. IT IS OF COURSE VITAL THAT PUERTO RICAN
GOVT PARTICIPATE IN DEVELOPMENT OF U.S. POSITION AND
SUPPORT ANY U.S.-GODR AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY DEPT AND
PUT BEFORE CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL. DEPT HAS MADE CONCERTED
EFFORT TO INVOLVE PUERTO RICAN GOVT, THE GOVERNOR, AND
THE CARIBBEAN FISHERY COUNCIL IN DEVELOPING THE U.S. POSI-
TION FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC PROB-
LEMS HAVE ARISEN TO DATE, DEPT FEELS IN VIEW OF
COMMENTS BY CARIBBEAN COUNCIL, GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO
SHOULD BE CONTACTED TO CLARIFY ANY POSSIBLE PROBLEMS PRIOR
TO RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, DEPT
UNDERSTANDS THAT AMBASSADOR YOST PLANS TO CALL ON GOVERNOR
AT AN EARLY DATE TO RAISE THIS AND OTHER ISSUES. DEPT
WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S INFORMING US OF GOVERNOR'S
COMMENTS AND VIEWS AFTER THE VISIT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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